

THE RAG PICKER

Volume No. I, Issue #3

June, 1966

(Any, or all, of these articles may be published freely (unless otherwise noted, as long as credit is given to the "Rag-Picker", the official publication of the Paper Money Collectors of Michigan.)

CONVENTION MEETING

A successful and enjoyable meeting was held in conjunction with the April Michigan State Numismatic Society's Convention in Grand Rapids.

Several matters of business were taken care of, among which was the adoption of the name "Rag Picker" for our official publication.

The main item of business discussed during the meeting, was the changing of the proposed Constitution to better fit our needs, and the adoption of it. (This proposal had been accepted tentatively at our November meeting, and left for official adoption at this meeting.)

The major change made pertained to the fiscal year of the organization. It was voted that we change this to be based on a calendar year. Other sections of the proposal were also changed to be in accordance-- such as the collection of dues, election of officers, etc. This change makes the time for the closing of the first year of our group, to coincide with the end of 1966, and it was therefore voted to allow the Charter to remain open until this time.

A copy of the Official Constitution and By-Laws, approved at this meeting, is included with this issue.

It was also voted that Harriet J. Nordhof act as Secretary-Treasurer of the group, inasmuch as very little had been heard from the previously elected Secretary.

PROGRAM BY RALPH HINKLE

After the convention meeting had been adjourned, Ralph Hinkle (No. Muskegon) presented to the members and guests present, a program pertaining to Large U.S. \$1.00 Notes, and other Paper Money items. The program included the use of colored slides that Ralph had prepared to help illustrate his talk. Discussion and remarks about these items was capably led by Ralph.

The program was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, and we thank Ralph for his efforts in providing this program.

SPECIAL TROPHY FOR PAPER CATEGORY

During the M.S.N.S. meeting, permission was granted to the Cinquefoil Coin Club to provide the First Place Trophy at all future Fall M.S.N.S. Conventions in the Paper Money category. This award will be known as the Dr. Frank A. Limpert Memorial Trophy, and be given by the Cinquefoil Club in honor of, and in recognition of the outstanding contribution that Dr. Limpert made in the Paper Money field.

SPECIAL MEETING BEING PLANNED!

It was suggested and approved that arrangements be made for a special meeting of our group. It was suggested as a dinner meeting, to be held in Lansing, Mich. on Sept. 17, 1966. Wm. Hover is working on these plans. All members and guests are invited. If you will be able to attend, kindly let us know, in order that reservations can be made, and you will be advised of further details.

QUESTIONNAIRES

Ninety of the questionnaires regarding collecting interests, and desires of the members have been returned. A second form is being enclosed with this issue for those who have not as yet returned them--in the event that they have become lost or, due to an oversight, one was not sent originally. Your help in filling these out, making your comments and returning them will be appreciated. This will enable the officers and editor to know what the membership will be most interested in.

Of the ninety returned, the following interests are indicated:

Small U.S. Notes	69%
Large U.S. Notes	50%
Fractional Currency	45 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Encased Postage	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Currency Errors	29%
Odd Serial Numbered Notes	23%
Counterfeit Notes	7%
Mich. Obsolete Bank Notes	36 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Other Broken Bank Notes	25%
Confederate Money	26%
Southern States Notes	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Mich. Depression Scrip	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Other Depression Scrip	8%
Mining Notes	6%
Foreign Paper Money	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Worthless Securities, etc.	11%
Exposition Tickets	9%
Other Tickets, etc.	4%

Interest was also expressed in Military Payment Certificates, Colonial and Continental Currency, and other specific items.

We hope to provide items of interest for all of the members in our issues of the "Rag-Picker".

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES

We ask that any of our members who have an interesting fact, or experience to share, that would be beneficial to the rest of the membership, to send it to our office, so that it may be included in a future issue, to be enjoyed by all of us. Articles pertaining to any phase of Paper Money, are invited.

ALBUMS

A question was received from Alan Moore (New York, N.Y.). "How do most of the club members house their collections? What albums are recommended as the most useful, etc.?" Perhaps we could run a listing of comments or ideas on this. We would like to have your suggestions!

COLLECTING INTERESTS

Erwin Woerndel (Houston, Texas) reports, "I have been a collector of large and 1929 Nationals for a type set, Gold Notes, Silver Certificates in both the Large and modern set, and the same in the Legal Tenders. My collection of early U.S. follows the theme of, "Our American Heritage on early U.S. Currency."

Richard A. Long (Baton Rouge, La.) deals in currency, and collects the currency of Mexico. He currently authored an article on the currency of Mexico, which was published in the June issue of "World Coins Magazine".

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

OFFICERS OF THE P.M.C.M.

President-----P.H. (Jim) Frans
 Vice-Pres.-----Max E. Brail
 Sec'y.-Treas.---H. J. Nordhof
 Bd. of Governors:--Geo. D. Hatie
 Bd. of Governors:--Irving Moskovitz
 Bd. of Governors:--Wm. J. Hover
 Editor-----Harriet J. Nordhof

Official Mailing Address:
 P.M.C.M., % P.O. Box 909
 Holland, Michigan. 49423

¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page - - - - - \$5.00
 Half Page - - - - - 3.00
 Fourth Page - - - - - 2.00

Small items, not requiring too much space, etc. No Charge

(Paid advertising will help to finance our issues, and enable us to have larger and extra issues.)

MICHIGAN NATIONAL BANKS

Submitted by - Louis Van Belkum III,
P.M.C.M. #81

At present I am working on a list of Michigan National Banks that did not issue currency, or that had their entire issue redeemed. I have obtained my information from the Annual Reports of the Comptroller of Currency; but I ran into a slight snag. The three libraries that have these reports, do not have the Statements of Condition for the years 1923 to 1928, for some reason. I would like to have my listing at present printed, in the hopes that might obtain information from members about banks that I am not certain about. In the listing, I give my reasons as I go along. Comments from members about the list or any additional information, would be greatly appreciated.

"L. Van Belkum"

<u>CITY</u>	<u>BANK NAME AND CHARTER NUMBER</u>	<u>REASONS</u>
Adrian	Nat. Bank of Adrian #13821 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933 or 1934 reports.
Avoca	First Nat. Bank #10790 (1915)	Formed on Oct. 4, 1915, and went into receivership on Oct. 24, 1933 with no circulation at close or in any report.
Benton Harbor	Farmers & Merchants National Bank in Benton Harbor #13833 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933 or 1934 reports.
*Brighton	First Nat. Bank #12869 (1925)	Formed in late 1925. No circulation in 1929-32 reports. Not in 1933 or 1934 reports. Not sure about 1926-28. Note #1.
Carsonville	First Nat. Bank #10753 (1915)	Formed in 1915. Succeeded by First State Bank of Carsonville on April 11, 1918. No circulation in 1916 or 1917 reports.
Centerline	First Nat. Bank #13240 (1928)	Formed Aug. 28, 1928. Went into receivership on Dec. 20, 1932 with no circulation at close, or in 1929-31 reports.
Cheboygan	Citizens' Nat. Bank #13522 (1931)	Formed in 1931. No circulation in 1931-34 reports.
Coldwater	Coldwater Nat. Bank #14116 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 report.
Crystal Falls	First Nat. Bank #14269 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 reports.
Detroit	Nat. Bank of Detroit #13671 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933-34 reports.
Detroit	Manufacturers Nat. Bank #13738 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933-34 reports.
Eaton Rapids	Nat. Bank of Eaton Rap. #13995 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 reports.
Gladwin	First Nat. Bank #10673 (1915)	Formed in 1915. Succeeded by First State Savings Bank of Gladwin on May 17, 1917. No circulation in 1916 report.
Grand Rapids	City Nat. Bank of G. R. #12108 (1922)	Formed in 1922. Consolidated with Grand Rapids Nat. Bank on March 13, 1922. No mention of, in 1922 Statements.

<u>City</u>	<u>Bank Name and Charter Number</u>	<u>Reasons</u>
Grand Rapids	Security Nat. Bank #13434 (1930)	Formed in 1930. On Aug. 29, 1931 merged with two banks to become state bank. No circulation in 1930 report.
Inkster	Inkster Nat. Bank #12878 (1925)	Formed on Dec. 16, 1925. Went into receivership on Sept. 23, 1931, with no circulation at close or in any report.
Jackson	East Side Nat. Union Bank #13072 (1927)	Formed in 1927. No circulation in 1929 report.
Kalamazoo	American Nat. Bank #13820 (1933)	Formed in 1933. No circulation in 1933-34 reports.
Lansing	First Nat. Bank #14032 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 report.
Ludington	Nat. Bank of Ludington #14016 (1934)	Formed in 1934 and no circulation in 1934 report.
Manistique	First Nat. Bank in Manistique #13513 (1930)	Formed on Nov. 11, 1930. Went into receivership on Nov. 22, 1934 with no circulation at close.
Manistique	First Nat. Bank #14280 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 report.
Midland City	First Nat. Bank # 2855 (1883)	Formed in 1883. Liquidated on Feb. 5, 1883, with no circulation ever issued.
Niles	First Nat. Bank #13753 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933 and 1934 reports.
Reed City	Reed City Nat. Bank #12474 (1923)	Formed on Dec. 8, 1923. Went into receivership on May 2, 1929, with no circulation at close.
Reed City	Reed City Nat. Bank #12474 (1923)	Formed on Dec. 8, 1923. Went into receivership on May 2, 1929, with no circulation at close.
Richmond	Nat. Bank of Richmond #13793 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933 or 1934 reports.
Utica	Utica Nat. Bank #14022 (1934)	Formed in 1934, and no circulation in 1934 report.
Wyandotte	Nat. Bank of Wyandotte #13874 (1933)	Formed in 1933, and no circulation in 1933 or 1934 reports.
Ypsilanti	Peoples Nat. Bank #12436 (1923)	Formed in 1923. After this, I do not know what happened. Not in 1929-34 reports.
Ypsilanti	Nat. Bank of Ypsilanti #13087 (1927)	Formed in 1927. No mention of in 1929-32 reports. No circulation in 1933 or 1934 reports.

* Note #1--Formed Dec. 18, 1925, went into receivership on Oct. 9, 1933, with no circulation at time of close.

Statements for 1935 did not carry circulation statements, because of the stoppage of letting banks issue notes.

Mich. Nat'l. Banks, Cond.

The members might also be interested in the fact that there are three errors in the Michigan National Bank section in Mr. Friedberg's "Paper Money of the United States" book. There are three banks in the list that are not banks of Michigan. They are as follows, with the place where they should be:

#1014 Lawrence - Bay State National Bank (should be in Massachusetts list.)

#2946 Akron - City National Bank (should be in Ohio list).

#6024 Childress - Childress National Bank (should be in Texas list.)

In addition to the above project of putting together a list of National Banks of Michigan that did not issue any currency, or ones that had their entire issue redeemed, I am also working on the project of putting together the history of the history of the National Banks of Grand Rapids, and finding out what notes they did issue. Any information pertaining to this is welcomed.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Editors Note: Mr. Van Belkum has advised that if there is enough interest on Michigan National Banks and bank notes, he would be willing to author a few articles, such as interesting notes, mergers, name changes, etc. I feel sure that I am safe in speaking for the membership, when I assure him that we would be interested, and thank him for all of his efforts and co-operation.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

WANTED * WANTED * WANTED * WANTED * WANTED * WANTED

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND CURRENCY

GOLD HARD TIMES TOKENS

AUSSIE HOLEY DOLLAR AND/OR DUMP'S

NEW GUINEA - 1929 - $\frac{1}{2}$ PENNY AND PENNY

Send, insured--with your price, or

Send, and I will make offer.

Oliver D. Brown (P.M.C.M. #100)
1827 Pacific Coast Hwy.
Lomita, Calif. 90717

BUY * SELL

APPRAISALS MADE

For Sale: Have two \$20.00, 1929 Series, Nat'l. Bank of Grand Rapids, Michigan available. Serial No. A-003151 and A-003157. Also, one \$20.00 Note, 1929 Series, FRN-Minneapolis. One-\$10.00 Note, Large Size, 1914 Cleveland FRN. One-\$10.00 1929 Series, FRN of Chicago. Will trade for gold coins, silver dollars, or other old coins; or will sell. A. G. Knowlton, 132 So. Ogden Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43204.

COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

We thank all of the members for the kind words of encouragement, in regard to the first two issues of the "Rag-Picker". Although we do not wish to take a lot of space to repeat these compliments, we thank all of the members who offered comments and suggestions.

One suggestion was offered by many of the members--that we have a Buy, Sell and Trade section. This has been started in this issue. All of our members are invited to participate in this column. Send in your wants, information about the items you wish to sell or trade, etc. anytime before the next publication, and they will be included. The next issue shall be issued sometime during October.

The membership also indicated that the development of a system to exchange Federal Reserve Notes from one district, for those of another district was desired. Irvin L. Gittleman (member from Monroe, Mich. has offered to co-ordinate this project. His letter reads as follows:

"I would like to suggest that a system for the exchange of notes from one Federal Reserve District for another be started. With our membership through-out the country, it can surely be a reality! I would be willing to co-ordinate this project, for our club, and offer my services for the benefit of the club and it's members. Anyone interested could write to me, and if they would be willing to act as a source of notes from one FR District, exchanges could be made. In general, I would start a listing of members who would like to participate, and act as a source of notes from each FR District. This would help all members build sets quicker, and perhaps greater collecting power would be an additional encouragement for other rag-pickers to join our ranks. I feel the new series of notes, now being printed has aroused interest--the real problem is a source. I have found most paper money collectors are happy to trade notes between districts, and would be glad to do whatever I could to share my findings with other members."

All members interested in working with Irvin on this project, are urged to contact him direct--2061 Hollywood, Monroe, Mich. 48161.

A similar comment was received from James Seville, who wrote, "Being of help to each other in obtaining Federal Reserve Notes from one district, in exchange for others from other districts, would be a beneficial project for all of the members interested in this phase of collecting." Other similar comments were received.

Suggestions were made for articles in future issues. A question and answer column was suggested by Norm Lewis (Saginaw, Mich.). Ethel Smith advised that she would like to hear some comments from the other members for building an exhibit of Confederate Money, and would especially like to have suggestions as to what category to enter it in.

The feelings of John H. Bragg (Mamou, La.) were expressed in his letter as follows, "I am a comparatively new currency collector, and one who is isolated from other currency collectors. One of the most helpful departments of any organization, such as the P.M.C.M. is a Swap, or Trade Club--to help the members who join avoid the feeling of being isolated in their collecting field. I know what such a club could mean to me, and I'm sure there are lots of collectors in similar circumstances. By all means, let's have a trade or swap department, and thus create a little fraternal joy!

U. S. Two Dollar Notes

By - Bob Grazier

Though they're often refused as payment, and even shunned sometimes as bad-luck omens, \$2 Bills are Perfectly Legal Money. There are about 39,000,000 of these bills in circulation.

Some superstitious people believe the \$2 bill is unlucky; others think that the bad luck can be broken by tearing off one corner of the bill. More logically, perhaps, many people tear off the corner to avoid mistaking the \$2 bill for \$1 or \$5. One federal reserve bank finds that 20 percent of its two-spots return with corners missing.

A \$2 Bill is Seldom Counterfeited. Would-be counterfeiters are generally too cautious to reproduce an item that attracts so much attention.

During World War II, various military camps found the \$2 bill helpful in public relations. In a few instances when communities near army or navy bases complained of troubles caused by servicemen or talked of having the bases removed from the area, camp paymasters were ordered to pay their men in \$2 bills. Almost invariably, when merchants began to tally the number of these unusual notes in their tills, they dropped the complaints.

There are More Twos in the Boston area than in any other region. The Federal Reserve bank there has obtained more \$2 bills than the other 11 Federal Reserve districts combined.

The \$2 note is traditionally popular among race track fans, who find it handy for the \$2 minimum bet.

The First \$2 Bills Were Issued in 1862. The Treasury Department reasoned that (a) mathematically, the \$2 bill was a better bridge between the 50-cent piece and the \$5 bill than the \$1 bill; (b) theoretically, the cost of printing a number of \$1 bills would be halved by printing the same amount of money in twos; and (c) also theoretically, a two would change hands only half as often as a \$1 note and would "live" longer.

Since 1862, there have been Five Kinds of \$2 Bills; United States notes, Silver Certificates, Treasury Notes, Federal Reserve Bank Notes, and National Bank notes. All are still legal tender, but the United States notes--with Thomas Jefferson pictured on the face of the bill and his home at Monticello on the back--are the most common, and the only ones now being printed.

The \$2 bill enjoyed a spurt in popularity among people who traveled to Mexico during World War II. By international agreement, All U.S. Paper Money was Forbidden in Mexico for the Duration of the War--Except the \$2 Bill. This agreement was a result of an axis attempt to flood Mexico with U.S. bills looted in Europe. But since few twos had come into axis hands, they are still accepted.

While counterfeit twos themselves are rare, sometimes overseas the \$2 bill turns up as a bogus \$100 bill--bearing the wrong portrait.

In Order to retain the special paper used in U.S. currency, some counterfeiters take a good \$2 bill, and raise it to a higher denomination by altering almost everything on it except its portrait of Jefferson. An altered portrait is relatively easy to detect. They hope that, since neither the \$2 nor the \$100 note is widely circulated abroad, most foreigners will not recognize that the false \$100 bill pictures Jefferson instead of Benjamin Franklin, as the real ones do.

COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

James W. Seville (Statesville, N.C.) advised as to how he became interested in paper money collecting. He writes, "I became interested in paper money when an error bill was discovered in our town. I had never collected paper money prior to this, but did collect stamps. I knew this error would be a popular number (two different serial numbers on the same bill). As it happened, I had just retired after fifty years of being a cotton merchant. I went into the currency business to keep me busy and occupied. In the low numbers beginning 0000 and many zeros up to 000000, I have been able to match numbers from different districts or series, and find this form of collecting very interesting.

* * * *

Arthur H. Leyrer (Bay Port, Mich.) reports the following: "I have been collecting Michigan Obsolete Notes for years--have many, need a few, and sometimes wonder if all those that I have heard and read about, exist. I also collect Large and Small notes, and type Confederate Notes. I started to collect coins in 1917, from Max Mehl."

C. Victor Deloe (Nettie, W. Va.) advises that he collects all foreign money with an emphasis on emergency monies and issues of civil wars and revolutions. He collects only a few of the more interesting American Obsolete notes. Articles on all phases of paper money--from economics through printing and banking, and listings of notes interest him.

(Victor is the author of the article on Fare Ticket Currency, contained within this issue.)

* * * *

Col. John W. Hammond (Ret), 10154 Desert Hills Drive, Sun City, Arizona, would appreciate hearing from anyone who can advise him on available publications on either Japanese or Chinese Paper Money. He is also wondering if anyone has any further information as to whatever happened to the test of paper made on the small dollar bill, issue of 1935A. (All that is written and reported is that the results were inconclusive.) Col. John is interested in obtaining a crisp, uncirculated R-201 and S-201, and also Military Payment Certificates (crisp condition) that any member has for sale.

* * * * *

Ray W. Hietalahti (Detroit, Mich.) advises that he has been collecting paper money for about three years, and has succeeded in putting together a complete set of small size \$1.00 and \$5.00 Silver Certificate Notes. He also has a variety of Confederate, Mexican and Broken Bank Notes, and at present is beginning a collection of Canadian \$1.00 Notes.

* * * * *

V. L. Roberts (Spring Valley, Minn.) would like to advise everyone regarding the Minneapolis Fowler Star notes. As of May 10th, none had been released, but it was rumored that they would soon be making an appearance. He is interested in buying a few 63 or 63A dollar notes \$1.00 notes beginning with 0000. Who has some to sell or trade?

* * * * *

Robert A. Schrader (Iowa Falls, Iowa) writes, "I am collecting small U.S. Notes \$1.00 thru \$20.00, 1935 Series and before. I do not have any gold certificates as yet. I am finding it difficult finding the gold backs, and when I do, they don't want to part with them. Of course dealers have them, but their prices are something else again!"

FARE TICKET CURRENCY

By - Victor Deloe P.M.C.M. #111

During the nineteenth century many American railroads issued paper money; but the most interesting was that of two South Carolina railroads. The South Carolina Railroad Company and the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad Company, in 1873, circulated fare tickets--beautifully engraved by the American Banknote Company with colorful vignettes and ornate reverses.

These tickets were accepted by merchants and bankers in transactions, and their size and fine engraving indicate that they were intended to be used as money. The question is: Were the two issues accepted as equal, or was a ticket of one company worth more than a similar ticket of the other company? The South Carolina Railroad two fare states that it is "Good for the fare of two passengers twenty-five miles", while the C. C. and A. two fare is "Good for the fare of two passengers twenty miles". This would seem to indicate that the second assumption is correct; however, a difference in rates on the two roads could have made their cash value equal.

Most writers attribute the use of fare denominations to a South Carolina law prohibiting anyone other than the Bank of the State of South Carolina from issuing currency notes. I feel that this only partially explains their use. There was a nation-wide panic and depression beginning in 1873, and lasting several years. As a result of the accompanying shortage of money, these notes would be easier to redeem in fares than in coin or national currency, and would also help alleviate the shortage. If my thoughts are correct, these two issues would be emergency money similar to the various issues of the depression of the 1930's.

SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD

All are dated, July 1st, 1873

- 1 Fare Locomotive at top left, seated woman at bottom right. Color-green.
- 2 Fare Three men loading cotton on a horse-drawn cart in the center, "2" on each end. Color-green.
- 5 Fare Locomotive and boxcar in center, "5" at each end. Color-green.

(The above notes are fairly common, all the others are rare.)

- 10 Fare Two women seated on a cotton bale in center. Colors-Brown and Black.
- 20 Fare Horses pulling cartload of cotton at left, dock scene at right. Colors-Brown and Black.

CHARLOTTE, COLUMBIA AND AUGUSTA RAILROAD

All are dated, October 1st, 1873

- 1 Fare Train in center. Colors-black and gray.
- 2 Fare Dog's head in center, a train at each end. Colors-black and gray.
- 5 Fare Train in center. Colors-black and gray.
- 10 Fare Locomotive in center. Colors-black and gray.

(Descriptions of notes not in author's collection, were taken from: South Carolina Obsolete Notes, by Austin M. Sheheen, Jr.)

COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS

Charles Warren (Willow Grove, Pa.) writes, "I collect older notes of any country in the world. I don't care much for the later issues. In general I am trying to get a sort of type set. However, I am most interested in notes that are what you might call a "work of art"--thus, I go for the ones with the pretty designs or scenes."

* * * * *

James I. McGowan (Rochester, New York) reports as follows: "Am presently involved in trying to complete the small U.S. Notes--\$1, \$2, and \$5 by series and letter combinations. I believe right now, the most urgent need for the paper collector or "rag-picker" as he is fondly known, is the availability of traders in all districts. Collectors are usually just that--one of a kind for the collection. I and a buddy here, are more concerned with obtaining a specimen of the different notes, than with obtaining a supply of a given series and selling them. For the most part, we have been successful in finding very wonderful people about the country who would trade, but it takes a lot of postage to locate them. I have often wondered how many notes with specific serial numbers or endings for instance, that I have spent, and later in corresponding with someone, finding that it happens to be his specific interest. Comments and Reports from the Members in the "Rag-Picker" contains some of this type of data, but I feel it could be enlarged upon!

I was pleasantly surprised to find that I had been signed up by Frank Pivarnick. He is one of the nice people I have "met" by mail, in my quest for district notes. It's too bad we all live so far apart.

Different methods of displaying notes and housing them also is of interest to me. This has been a problem (for me anyway), since the plastic pages are either too small, or too large, and the 50 holder book is fine for the safety deposit box, but not much value for showing. How about some ideas along this line - especially from the makers of these display methods"

* * * * *

Howard F. Snure, Jr. (Detroit, Mich.) asks: "I have heard that you are starting a Military Currency Society. Can you tell me about it, and is there anything I can do?"

(Editor's Note: We were not planning on doing anything specific on this one small phase. However, do plan to include articles covering all phases of paper collecting, and would be happy to have an article on this subject for a future issue.)

* * * * *

David Nairn (Thompson, Iowa) writes, "I was quite interested in the article written by Carl Roethke on Mining Money of Michigan in the last issue--and especially about the agents of the companies who were in the habit of cancelling the revenue stamps with their own initials. I have some personal checks of my father, where he put 2¢ postage and revenue stamps on each check, and initialed each with his initials, together with the month and year. These checks were made in 1898.

My own personal collection of paper money consists of Fractional Currency, Large size Bank Notes, and the Small size Bank Notes of today. My current ambition is to obtain notes of National Currency of the Type #2--issued in 1929 to 1935.

My start in the collecting of paper money came about while looking for coins. It seemed that everyone had a few pieces of large bank notes to show, and I just started to look for these along with coins. Now, with coins becoming harder to find, and so high-priced, I find paper money easier--to a point. I have quite a few notes on towns in Iowa, notes of 1929-1935 in Type #1."

By - P. H. (Jim) Frans

In the beginning of Indiana's history, there was no currency in circulation. Barter and trade were universal--peltries being used as the only currency. Values were based on what the article would bring in coon-skins, muskrat and mink pelts and other furs. Indiana was a sparsely settled territory. There were no manufacturers, and the settlers traded for all of their actual necessities. The pioneers cleared their land, and raised what they needed to sustain life. The forests abounded in game. They gathered wild nuts and fruits, and about the only things they were forced to purchase were salt, hardware, and a few articles that they were unable to make themselves. Wheat, corn, hogs and peltries were exchanged for these necessities.

On market days the farmers would gather at some convenient central location or public square, for the purpose of "swapping", as they called it. At public meetings of every kind, be it religious or otherwise, the pioneers would stand around after the meeting, and engage in trade or exchange of goods, or chattels for future delivery.

There was a small amount of government scrip, and a few British or Spanish silver pieces brought in by the settlers from the East. For small change, the Spanish dollars were cut into quarters, eighths, and sixteenths. These were called "bits".

In 1786 the early congress chose as the monetary unit of the United States, the dollar. It consisted of 375.64 grains of pure silver. This unit originated from the Spanish Piastre, or milled dollar. The Spanish dollar was the principle coin in circulation at that time.

By an act of April 2, 1792, the first monetary system in the United States was established. The basis for this system was the gold dollar, containing 14.75 grains of pure gold. The silver dollar contained 371.25 grains of pure silver. It was found impossible to maintain this double standard due to the fluctuating value of silver. It was found out, at an early age, that cheap money always drives out the good, and in 1873, a single gold standard was adopted. From that date, until we went off the gold standard in 1933, this system was employed. Silver was used as a convenience in small transactions.

The first banks in Indiana were chartered by the Territorial Legislature in 1814. They were the Bank of Vincennes, and the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Madison. When Indiana became a state in 1816, the constitution recognized these two banks, and confirmed their charters. The Vincennes bank was recognized as the State Bank in 1817, and the Madison bank a branch. Branches were also established in Vevay, Brookville and Carydon. Due to reckless management at the Vincennes Bank, the general assembly authorized legal proceedings to revoke their charter, and it was closed in 1821. The note holders lost heavily. The Madison branch paid out in full.

From 1821 until 1834, there was a great financial depression in the entire state, and prices tumbled. To make matters worse, there were epidemics of disease, and many of the pioneers died during the period of 1821-1823. After the depression and epidemic, the government (in order to encourage settlers), reduced the price of government owned land from \$2.00 to \$1.25 an acre. Gradually, prosperity returned to Indiana. They began building canals, roads, etc.

During 1834, the legislature chartered the "State Bank of Indiana". They gave them authority to establish branches. This bank held a complete monopoly on the banking business. It's charter ran for twenty-

Banks of the Wabash, Cond.

five years. During it's existence, no other bank could operate within the state. The bank was well managed, but during the financial panic of the Jackson administration in 1837, the bank was forced to suspend specie payments. In 1842, five years later, the bank was ordered by the legislature to resume payments, and from 1842 the bank stood ready to meet all demands for the redemption of it's notes.

Between 1832 and 1839 the state was aiding in the building of roads and canals. In 1839 the state authorized the issuance of \$1,500,000 in state scrip. This scrip was to bear 6% interest. The scrip depreciated for a time, and speculators took advantage of this, and began manipulating the market. It was, however, eventually redeemed. The issue of the state scrip led to still further inflation of the currency. Millers, merchants, companies, and contractors on public roads all went into the banking business, by issuing scrip and paper money. It was made payable in goods or in merchandise, and much of this was floated on the public. The currency of the Plank Road Company was based on their receipts for toll. Their scrip was issued in bills as low as twenty-five cents, and the highest amount being three dollars. It was printed on blue paper. From this color, we get the name "Blue Pup" currency. The state scrip was printed on red paper, and from this we get the name "Red Dog".

About the same time, Michigan banks got into the act of issuing paper money with little or no backing, or financial soundness, and Michigan Wildcat Currency flooded northern Indiana, and added further difficulties in making financial transactions. Most of this currency became worthless, business was prostrated, and values destroyed.

The State Bank of Indiana was well managed, and it's paper money floated at par. Other interests became envious of the State Bank's monopoly. Pressure was put on the legislature, and the original instrument of 1816, giving the State Bank exclusive authority to issue money, was stricken out, and the legislative body was given authority to establish free banking laws, which were passed by that body in 1853. In 1855 a charter was given to the State Bank of Indiana. This act was vetoed by Governor Wright, but was finally passed over his veto. The charter of the old bank did not expire until 1859. A new company bought out the old bank, and in 1857, Hugh McCullough was elected it's president. Mr. McCullough guided the new bank into a safe and honorable career. The bank weathered the financial crisis of 1859, and continued its operations until it was superseded by the National Banking system of 1865.

The free banking laws opened the door for other financial disasters. Banks sprang up everywhere. These banks made no pretense of being banks of deposit. Their only business was to float notes. Several persons would get together, and buy up some depreciated bonds of some far away municipality, and deposit them with the auditor of the state. Then they would open an office, and start in the banking business, and be given the authority to issue paper money. They would issue notes far in excess of their assets, float them, and the notes would become worthless. It was good business to float them as far from the bank as possible, so they would not be presented for payment in the near future. Much of this money was floated, or sold, at a discount in the Eastern states. Some banks started with no more capital than was necessary to secure the engraving and printing of the notes, and the purchasing of office fixtures. The fixtures usually consisted of a desk, a few chairs, and a small safe.

Mr. McCullough in speaking of these banks said, "Their life was pleasant and short; their demise ruinous and shameful. As soon as their notes were presented for payment, they died without a struggle."

Banks of the Wabash, Continued

Mr. McCullough later became the first controller of currency under the National Banking System of 1865, and still later, Secretary of the Treasury.

During the 1850's, Indiana was flooded with these worthless notes, and of course havoc resulted from these banking methods. On the day you received them, they were at par; but if you traveled to your rural home and returned the next day, you had no assurance you could even cash them. The uncertainty of these notes gave them the name of "Wild Cats".

Various opinions are expressed by historians on the origin of the name "Wild Cats". Some of the reasons given for the name are as follows: (1). Many banks were located in the wilderness, and proved as dangerous as wild cats. (2). Some early notes had vignettes of lions, tigers, or panthers--hence the name "Wild Cat". (3). Oliver Newbury, a merchant remarked, "Those banks are springing up as thick as wild cats all over the country." (4). On December 23, 1816, the Governor of Missouri Territory approved an act, "to encourage the killing of wolves, panthers, and wild cats". Bounties were paid with legal tender certificates, called Wild Cat Certificates. (5). A diary written in 1838 stated that Michigan notes were classified as "Wild Cats", "Tom Cat", "Mad Cats" and "Red Dog".

There was a publication known as the Bank Note Detector, which attempted to keep the public advised as to the value of bills of various banks, but it was impossible to publish the Detector as often or as quickly as bank notes were printed, and keep step with the "Red Dogs", "Blue Pups" and Wild Cats, that were over-running the pioneer forests of Indiana.

I will close this article by quoting from the parody on the "Banks of the Wabash", taken from W. T. Wilson's article on banking, read before the Historical Society, Feb. 26, 1909: "The only bank I ever saw along the Wabash, was a farmer banking up his house one day; and snow banks that bank up in the winter; and the sand banks that are banking up in May. But there's faro banks galore along the Wabash, and other banks in which you put your trust. There's another kind of bank you put your money in; there's a loud report, and then the bank has bust."

§ § § § § § § §

COLLECTING INTERESTS

N. J. Cummings (Malta, Montana): reports, "I am very much interested in Currency from Montana and Idaho--both large and small. Have a few bills on Michigan and other states, which I would be willing to trade." Richard A. Banyai (Phoenix, Arizona) reports that his main interests center around Confederate Money, Foreign Paper Money, and also research and study of Central Bank and Central government--monetary and fiscal policies, as well as hyper-inflations.

Eugene A. Collister (Detroit, Mich.) advises his interests center around Foreign Paper Money--especially Bank Notes of Japan, Japanese Military Notes, and Bank Notes of Russia.

Carl Peterson (Ludington, Mich.) writes, "To date I have been collecting only the small size notes, and I feel that the Donlon method of listing is the most simple, and easy to comprehend and retain. I am finding that Silver Certificates are becoming scarce--that is in circulation, and so I am buying the early issues from dealers. Recently I did find a 1934A Yellow Seal in XF Condition, \$10.00 Silver Certificate."

MEMBERSHIP INCREASE

Since the second issue of our "Rag-Picker" was released in March, 64 additional applications for membership have been received. A sincere welcome to all of these new applicants. The credit for this increase is due to the efforts of many of our members, as well as the co-operation received from the many numismatic publications.

Two of the members deserve a special thank-you for their efforts to introduce our organization to other paper money enthusiasts. The first, Frank Pivarnick employs a rather unique method. Frank sends a membership in the P.M.C.M. as a birthday greeting to his many paper money collector friends--whether it is their birthday or not!

Another member, who deserves a big orchid is James W. Seville. Jim sends out an excellent paper money mail list periodically, and he offered to enclose applications for our group with his out-going mail. As a result of his co-operation, many new collectors are now members of our group.

These, as well as many other examples of the co-operation being received, are responsible for our growth rate! We thank all for their efforts and enthusiasm.

The growth rate has been so rapid, that the copies of the first issue of the "Rag-Picker" were all sent out, and it will be necessary to reprint this for the members who did not receive a copy.

Membership is open to anyone interested in collecting and learning about Paper Money of all types--regardless of residence or the length of time the individual has been collecting.

Tell your friends about our group, and invite them to join. Simply send the name and address of any new applicants, together with the \$1.00 yearly dues for 1966, to P.M.C.M., P.O. Box 909, Holland, Mich. 49423.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

ORCHIDS TO THE EXHIBITORS

During the last few months, several members have been successful in exhibiting competition at various coin shows, etc.

During the April Convention of the Michigan State Numismatic Society, William J. Hover (South Haven, Mich.) was awarded 1st Place as well as Best of Show in the Paper Money category, for his outstanding five case exhibit of Fractional Currency. Harold Anderson (Caro, Mich.) received the 2nd Place trophy, and Barbara VanBelkum (Wyoming) was awarded the 3rd Place. Competition was keen, and all three of these members deserve our congratulations.

Randy Streeter (Bay City, Mich.) placed Third for his display of Paper Money in the Junior Division at the Penn-Ohio Show, held in Dayton, Ohio during March.

Mrs. Alphonse Kirka (Manchester, Conn.) and Chester Grabowsky (Rockville, Conn.) both placed with their Paper Money exhibits at the Uncas Coin Show in Norwich, Conn. Chester also received 2nd Place for his Paper Money exhibit at the NENA Convention.

Charles Lyle (Lathrup Village, Mich.) was awarded the Best of Show for exhibiting Non-member at the Saginaw, Mich. coin show held on May 1st.

There have undoubtedly been many more outstanding exhibits belonging to our members, during the last few months, and to all of these members, as well as those mentioned above, congratulations are extended!

NATIONAL BANK NOTE - CHARTER NO. 10527

By - Richard L. Hood P.M.C.M. #8

One of the most encountered 1929 series National Bank Notes in Michigan has been on Charter No. 10527. This charter number is of course the property of the National Bank of Detroit. It is a landmark in downtown Detroit, and the home of one of the best collections of coins and notes in the country. A brief history of notes with this charter number is as follows:

10527.Large Notes:

1. First & Old Detroit National Bank
Chartered, April 22, 1914.

(the above bank absorbed by;

2. First National Bank of Detroit - on Jan. 19, 1922.

Standard Size: Series of 1929 (All Type I) are found with these different titles:

3. First National Bank in Detroit (until Dec. 31, 1931)
4. First Wayne National Bank of Detroit
(Jan. 27, 1932 thru Sept. 15, 1932.)
5. First National Bank-Detroit (Nov. 26, 1932 to May 11, 1933)

The above notes have different President signatures on numbers 3 and 4.

For the benefit of future collectors who intend to display the 1929 series notes, these dates will greatly assist your information on Type I and Type II:

Type I

\$ 5.00	July 15, 1929 to May 27, 1933
10.00	" " " " " "
20.00	" " " " " "
50.00	" " " " " "
100.00	" " " " " "

Type II

Issued on and after May 27, 1933.

5.00	May 27, 1933 to May 14, 1935
10.00	" " " " May 20, 1935
20.00	" " " " May 14, 1935
50.00	" " " " Feb. 25, 1935
100.00	" " " " Mar. 6, 1935

A general date if used could be May 27th, 1933 as Type II consecutive numbering system commenced then.

VIGNETTES AVAILABLE

Paper Money collectors are able to purchase from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, steel-die engraved vignettes, portraits, seals and reproductions of many historical documents. Many of these vignettes and portraits are identical to those printed on United States currency. The Bureau does make a charge for this service, but the cost is nominal.

In the small portrait series, all thirty-five Presidents are represented, and are priced at 55¢ each. (Several of these are the same as those appearing on currency.) The large size presidential portrait series is also offered, but does not include all thirty-five of the presidents, and are priced at 85¢ each. Vignettes of public buildings--many the same as on the currency, are available at a cost of 45¢ each. Portraits of the Chief Justices are also available in the small size. Government seals are reproduced (in color), and some historical documents can be obtained.

Much of this material might be very useful in helping to create more attractive exhibits, and other worthwhile projects.

A complete listing and order form can be obtained by writing to The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Office Services Branch, 14th & C Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20226.

¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢

A.N.A. CHICAGO CONVENTION

Many of our members will undoubtedly be attending the 75th A.N.A. Convention in Chicago (August 16-20). It has come to our attention that several of our members plan to exhibit their Paper Money there. Perhaps some sort of arrangement can be made with the Registration Desk, whereby we will be able to find out if any of our fellow P.M.C.M. members are at the convention, and be able to meet personally with each other.

SINGAPORE - NEXT ISSUE

An article is being planned for our next issue, containing the details and story about the Broken Bank Notes of Singapore (the buried city on the Eastern shore of Lake Michigan), near Saugatuck.

\$2.00 Note Article

Bob Grazier, author of the article contained within this issue on the \$2.00 notes, is the Executive Vice-President of the Republic National Bank of Miami (Florida). Bob also served as a member of the 1966 Assay Commission. We thank him for his co-operation in sending us this article for our publication. Bob writes a column, containing articles similar to this one, which is published within the publication of the Florida Bankers Association.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Larry Falater (Detroit, Mich.) writes: "I have been thinking of writing some articles for quite some time now, and the thought occurred to me that a brief article on the Michigan \$4 and \$8 bills would be interesting, if plates could be made of these six type notes. I have the notes in my collection. I think that illustrations are a big key to getting more interesting articles."

Our treasury does not, at the present time, permit us to think too much along the line of plates for illustrative purposes--however, perhaps something can be worked out, whereby this can be possible for future issues.

WANTED - FOR SALE - & TRADE

- Wanted:** I am interested in accumulating copies, photos or facsimiles of rare U.S. Obsolete Notes for my library. I am interested in Paper Money and all of the associated material--books, notes, copies, illustrations, etc.
Stanley Janusz, 2429 N. Hancock Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19133
- Wanted:** Any Indiana Broken Bank Notes. I am trying to obtain a few for a story and a display I'm doing in conjunction with Indiana's Sesquicentennial.
Fay C. Smith, 125 Dwiggins, Griffith, Indiana 46319
- Wanted:** Needed for American Heritage Collection, Note on N.B. Ironwood, Iron Mountain and Iron River, Michigan. Also, any N.C. Notes issued on Texas Banks. Will Trade or Buy.
Erwin Woerndel, 441 W. 24th St., Houston, Texas 77008
- Wanted:** Broken Bank Gibraltar--(only this bank). Nationals: Wyandotte, #12616; Monroe, #1587; Lincoln Park, #12999. If any member has any of these for sale, please let me know.
Richard Hood, 4837 Fort St., Trenton, Mich. 48183
- Wanted:** 1929 Series, U.S. \$5.00 Nat'l. Bank Notes, in Fine or Better Condition from all 50 States and any city or bank. Notes must be reasonably clean, not torn or damaged. Describe notes condition, and give charter number, city and state, as well as best prepaid price. I'll pay cash, or trade other notes I have in \$1.00, \$2.00 and \$5.00 in strictly unc. condition--series 1928 to date. Have some choice low serial numbers.
J. R. Coker, Box 8846, Mitchellville, Tenn. 37119.
- Wanted:** Mismatched U 37, U 47, 1957-B Silver Certificates--crisp, Unc.
& Sale: \$39.50. Unusual serial numbers and low notes in unc. condition wanted. Will buy or exchange. Interested in single notes, or bundles of 100. Free price list.
James W. Seville, Box 866, Statesville, N. C. 28677.
- Trade:** Would any member be interested in trading for my \$1.00 N.Y. Star 1963, 1963A; Also, 00 Star 1963-A?
Dr. Jules Korman, 281 Sixth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10014
- Trade:** My 1957 and 1957-B Silver Certificate in C.U. for trade, even, for your 1957-A Silver Certificates in C.U., plus stamped envelope.
Irvin L. Gittleman, P.O. Box 164, Monroe, Mich. 48161.
- Trade:** 1963-A C.U. Fowler, two from your district for two from my district (#5).
Ron Stefan, 8044 Bank St., Baltimore, Maryland 21224
- Trade:** Wish to trade 1963 and 1963A, \$1.00 FRN, Reg. & Star notes.
A. L. Hodson, 373 W. 6th St., Winona, Minn. 55987.
- Trade:** Would like to trade a \$1.00, #9 FRN, 1963A Crisp, for a #7 FRN, 1963A.
Howard Snure, Jr., Gramont Manor, Apt. 302, 120 Seward Ave. Detroit, Mich. 48202.
- Wanted:** I am interested in obtaining some of the Fed. Res. Star notes, 1963, one dollar size, starting with 0000 and from the following dits: A, G, H, I, J, K, & L. Can anyone in the club help me at reasonable price. Collect small serial numbers in all paper money--both large and small sizes.
Alan Moore, WNYC-TV, Room 8016, 350 5th Ave., Empire State Bldg., New York, N.Y. 10001.

"THE LOST CAUSE"

The following poem was written by Major S. A. Jonas on the back of a \$500 Confederate Note, at Richmond, Virginia. It was first published shortly after the conclusion of the Civil War in a New York publication. Variations of it have been published, but it is believed that the following version is the original form.

Representing nothing on God's earth now
And naught in the waters below it,
As the pledge of a nation that's dead and gone
Keep it, dear friend, and show it.

Show it to those who will lend an ear
To the tale that this paper can tell,
Of liberty born of the patriot's dream,
Of a storm-cradled nation that fell.

Too poor to possess the precious ores
And too much of a stranger to borrow,
We issued to-day our promise to pay
And hoped to redeem on the morrow.

The days rolled by, and the weeks became years,
But our coffers were empty still;
Coin was so rare that the treasury'd quake
If a dollar should drop in the till.

But the faith that was in us was strong indeed,
And our poverty well we discerned,
And this little check represented the pay
That our suffering veterans earned.

We knew it had hardly a value in gold,
Yet as gold each soldier received it.
It gazed in our eyes with a promise to pay,
And each Southern patriot believed it.

But our boys thought little of price or of pay
Or of bills that were overdue;
We knew if it bought us our bread to-day
'Twas the best our poor country could do.

Keep it; it tells all our history o'er,
From the birth of the dream to its last.
Modest and born of the angel Hope,
Like our hope of success, it passed.